

Last Sunday's Record - April 19, 2020

Offering: \$18,153.04

January 1, 2020

Requirements: \$444,700.79

Receipts: \$469,105.85

Deacon of the Week

5/3 - Walter Rogers, Sr. 5/10 - Jet Scarbrough
5/17 - Jim Williamson 5/24 - John Anderson, Sr.
5/31 - Tommy Cason

Sermon for May 5

"Hidden Figures"

1 Corinthians 12:12-25

CONTINUING PRAYER NEEDS

Jim Patton (1/5/20) friend of Chris Lauderdale
Margaret Roberson (1/8/20) Joe Ross' sister
Julia Joyce Horn (1/8/20) Joyce Frank's granddaughter
Susan Dunn (1/9/20)
Dottie Schachte (1/9/20) friend of Arlene Campbell
Sandra Johnson (1/19/20) friend of Sandra Dennis
Hays Monsour (1/20/20)
Emily Price (7/20/20)
Dorothy and Harry Little (1/20/20)
Les and Liz Prystup (1/20/20)
Rebecca King (1/20/20)
Lisa and Wayne Powell (1/20/20)
Ginger Richardson (1/22/20)
Carole Lewis (1/22/20)
Pat Dalferes (1/26/20) friend of Debi Perkins
Freddie Poitevent (1/28/20)
Robert and Coweela George (1/28/20)
Debra Porter's sister and brother-in-law
Jim and Gloria Addison (1/28/20)
Ken Smith (1/28/20) Linda Smith's brother
The Cobb Family
Kelly Richardson (1/28/20)
Michelle Spedero (1/28/20) Diane Davison's daughter
Leonard Jones Pam Maloney's father
Donna Rainey (1/22/19) Gaile Culpepper's cousin
Jack Follis (1/29/19)
Cindy Howell (1/27/20) Molly Ellis' niece

Maude Grant (2/3/20) Richard Grant's mother (ESL)
Antonia Garza (2/9/20) friend of Lisa Powell
Andrea Powell (2/11/20) friend of the VanHorns
Ellen Rogers (2/12/20)
Candy Meyers (2/12/20) Marilyn Green's niece
Jaeger Cumberland (2/17/20) Dorothy Little's great grandson
Family of Lynn Combest (2/17/20)
Cary Vaughn (2/23/20)
David Monsour (2/24/20) friend of Leonard Cobb
Louise Ellis (3/1/20) John Ellis' mother
Tony Sansone (3/1/20)
DeRina Usher (3/1/20) Judy Pettey's friend
Maudie Newsome (3/1/20)
Mel Bounds (3/1/20)
Paulette Hopkins (3/1/20) David Hopkins' mother
Barbara Cleveland (3/10/20) Ingrid Price's friend
Melba Wesson (3/13/20) Margaret Harrison's friend
Judge Charles Smith (3/16/20) Friend of Leonard Cobb
Gray Spencer 3/20/20 Pam Gray's cousin's son
Dee Negrete (3/20/20) Joe and Betty Ross' daughter
Emily Olander (3/28/20) Gary and Sally Wilkinson's niece
Pete and Julie Bertrand (3/31/20) Albert Alston's friend
Brook Davis (3/31/20) Jennifer Williams' husband's cousin
Pete Denton (4/1/20) Ray Denton/Cathy Carpenter's father
Raymon Leake (4/1/20)
Michelle Weatherford (4/8/20) friend of Shea Leake
Jim Harris (4/8/20) Tammy Matthews' father
Benny and Margaret Harrison (4/15/20)
Debbie Adams (4/15/20) Caitlin Braud's mother
Tim Thesman (4/15/20) Carol Wink's brother
Dancy Sykes (4/20/20)
JoAnn Braddock (4/21/20)

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK

Julia Parker (4/24/20) friend of Micki Harrison
Richard Lewis (4/27/20) Micki Harrison's father
Georgene Garrett (4/28/20)
Janice Deweese Jones (4/30/20)

Dr. Nathan VanHorn, Pastor
Rev. David Bishop, Associate Pastor for Music
Zach DePriest, Minister of Youth *Caitlin Braud, Director of Children's Ministries*
Dr. Raymon Leake, Pastor Emeritus
Rev. David McCubbin, Associate Pastor Emeritus
701 26th Avenue Meridian, MS 39301 601.484.4600 www.fbcmeridian.org

THE MESSENGER

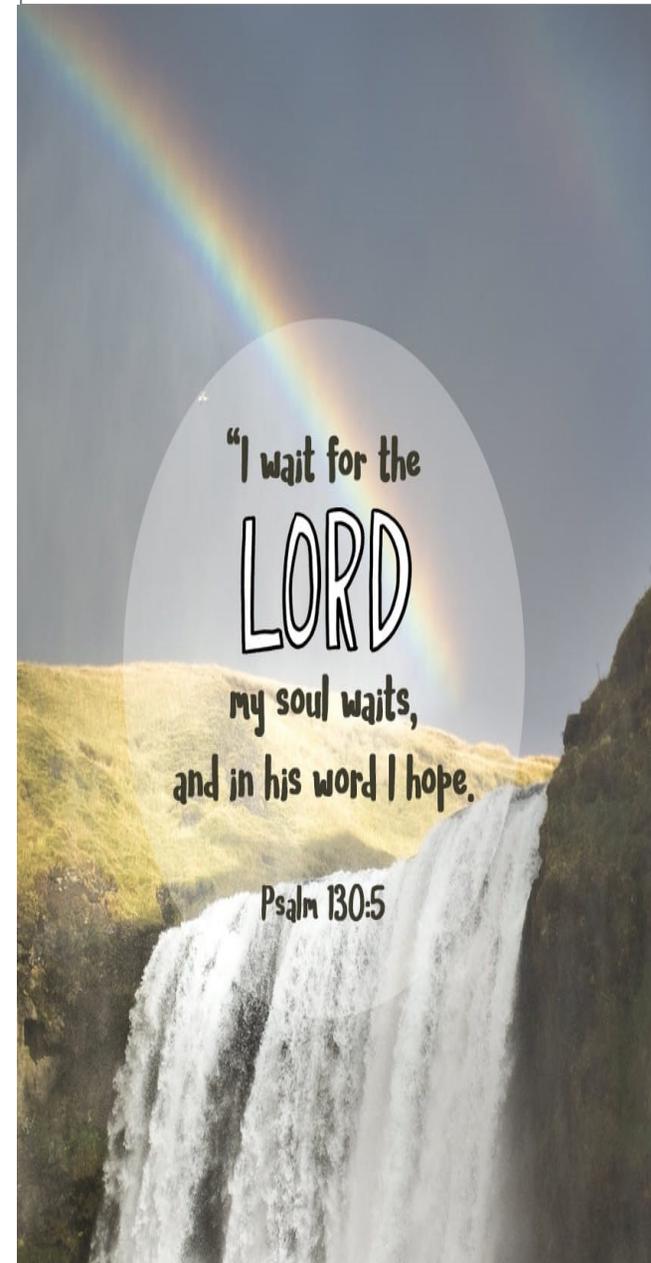


FBCM

First Baptist Church
Meridian

May 3, 2020

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Church Family,

I have been thinking and praying for a few weeks on “where to go” in the pulpit after we finish our current series, CLOTHED, on May 10. I have landed on a new series called “Inter/Mission: Don’t Waste the Wait” (I wrote briefly on this concept a few weeks back). In this series, we will explore several passages that involve waiting on God—for restoration, deliverance, healing, purpose, you name it. Waiting has been an integral part of the life of faith long before the coronavirus pandemic. That same will be true after this season has passed.

Left to our/my own devices, we/I hate waiting, and everything about our culture in recent years has further conditioned our natural inclination against waiting. Long gone are the days of the wood burning oven/stove. We have microwaves or—better yet—fast food chains if preparing food at home seems too time-consuming. We have video streaming services that allow us to binge-watch our favorite shows so that we are not caught in suspense, waiting an entire week (God forbid) between episodes. Two-day shipping on *anything* from *anywhere* has become a standard expectation. For the love of God, don’t make us wait.

I recently had a conversation in which someone said: “I know we don’t have it ‘that bad’ waiting at home, but I’m going crazy” (I expressed my empathy, because I am also restless). “I mean, we’ve come a long way since the Spanish flu a century ago in 1918—we have all sorts of luxuries and conveniences to pass the time that they did not have. Why does this seem so hard?” I responded that precisely because they lacked our modern luxuries and conveniences, they were better accustomed to waiting. Our expectations shape our experiences and we expect not to wait.

Even so, some of our most encouraging Scriptures involve waiting. A quick Google search will confirm that claim. Interestingly, for the biblical writers, *waiting is not a passive condition* of killing time, but an active praying and seeking and serving God however we can wherever we are until He brings us to the place or condition in which we are not yet. Think about it: one can “wait” for one’s food at a restaurant passively with irritation, or one can “wait” tables at a restaurant. I waited tables for a few months after getting engaged to save some extra money—trust me, “waiting” tables is an active and intentional gig.

I would be lying if I told you I knew exactly how God will use this time for our good and His glory, but I firmly believe He is committed to both of those agendas. So, against the natural inclinations of my flesh, I am trying to be patient. When we are tempted to feel like we cannot wait for this season to be over, I encourage you, me—US—to pray for ways to seek and serve God in preparation for whatever lies beyond this sojourn. I, for one, believe that it will be worth the wait.

NWV

F260 WEEK 19 READING beginning 5/3/20
Monday - Psalm 119:129-176, 139
Tuesday - Psalm 148-150
Wednesday - 1 Kings 2
Thursday - 1 Kings 3, 6
Friday - 1 Kings 8, 9:1-9
Memory Verses: Psalm 139:1-3, Psalm 139:15-16

Thank you to all the faithful givers of FBC!
As a reminder, you can mail your offering to
701 26th Avenue, Meridian, MS 39301,
or give online through our **ShelbyNext app** or
through our website (www.fbcmeridian.org).



Class of
2020

Announcing our 2020 High School Seniors!

Alana Akin Walker Calhoun
Martavius Earl Sam Garrett
Isabelle Long Jessica Pulivarthi
Christian Ruttle Kathleen Tabb

NOTE TO OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES:

If you have a family member that is graduating from college, we would also like to honor them in *The Messenger*. Please contact the church office with details (601.484.4600). Thank you.

FBC Scholarship Applications

Contact the church office to secure Scholarship applications by e-mail. They must be completed and returned to the church office on or before **Sunday, June 15.**

MISSIONS SPOTLIGHT

In his book *Be Anxious for Nothing*, Max Lucado says that Philippians 4:4-8 is the most underlined passage in the Bible. He feels that it should be displayed on the museum wall that contains the framed words of the 23rd Psalm, the Lord’s Prayer, and John 3:16. The five verses contain four admonitions that lead to one wonderful promise, says Lucado: “The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds.” (v7). He continues:

Celebrate God’s goodness. (v4)

Ask God for help. (v6).

Leave your cares with Him. (v6)

Meditate on good things. (v8)

Celebrate. Ask. Leave. Meditate.

CALM

All of us could use some calm right now.
What a wonderful promise!